TORONTO GLOBAL FORUM

LEADING THE NEW ECONOMY

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 4–6, 2019
—
FAIRMONT ROYAL YORK HOTEL

Presented by

COGECO
This is a preliminary program and is subject to change.

Wednesday, September 4

Global Economy, Finance and Innovation

**Registration**

6:30 AM

**Working Breakfasts**

7:00 AM

**Opening of the 13th Edition of the Toronto Global Forum**

8:30 AM

**Inaugural Plenary Session**

9:00 AM

**Leading the New Economy**

The global economy faces a number of complex challenges - from economic nationalism and trade disputes to the rapid technological advances - which threaten to fragment the international economic order. How can we interpret the recent global economic slowdown? Is the financial sector ready to face the risk of a new slump? What can help foster a more inclusive and sustainable economy?

**Fireside Chat**

10:00 AM

**Forum 1 simultaneously**

10:45 AM

**Financial Inclusion in the Age of FinTech**

What innovative solutions are being implemented to advance financial inclusion? How do established companies respond to the rise of fintech and the increased competition in the sector? How can institutions regulate fintech to avoid any downward slides while enabling this positive impact?

**Forum 2 simultaneously**

**Investing for Impact**

Can social investments provide as interesting returns as traditional ones? How can we prevent these investments from being associated with plain marketing initiatives? Is impact investing just a trend or the best strategy to address the fraying contract between society and business?

**Forum 3 simultaneously**

**Fostering Financial Health to Improve Mental Well-being**

How can financial literacy help to reduce stress and improve mental well-being? How can employers help mitigate the effects of financial stress? What can be done to help prepare youth for healthier futures?

**Forum 4 simultaneously**

**The Workplace of the Future**

As automation makes progress, what skills will be most valuable for workers of tomorrow? What strategies can ensure diversity and gender inclusion in the workplace? How does the rise of digital communications impact the workplace and the mobility of workers?

**Luncheon**

12:00 PM

**Leadership in an Era of Change**

**Networking Coffee and Dessert**

2:00 PM

**Fireside Chat**

2:30 PM
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

GLOBAL ECONOMY, FINANCE AND INNOVATION

3:00 PM  
**AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION**

**INNOVATION: THE PATH TO GROWTH**
As technology continues to transform the way businesses automate complex tasks, allocate labor and innovate, it is more than ever crucial for organizations to innovate to remain competitive in the global marketplace. What type of innovation has the potential to drive growth? What impact are advanced technologies having on the productivity and efficiency of corporations? How can the public and private sectors work to foster innovation and competitiveness?

4:00 PM  
**CLOSING PLENARY SESSION**

**GEOECONOMICS IN AN AGE OF STRATEGIC RIVALRY**
Trade disputes, geopolitical tensions and debt accumulation all constitute severe risks for the global economy. How is the current geopolitical reality affecting the global economy? What impact do geopolitical tensions have on companies and investors? What can companies and states do to mitigate risks and continue to grow and prosper?
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5  ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

6:30 AM  REGISTRATION

7:00 AM  WORKING BREAKFASTS

8:30 AM  OPENING ADDRESS

9:00 AM  MORNING PLENARY SESSION
THE NEXT GENERATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE
Global infrastructure is under stress and faces growing challenges related to population growth, cyber threats and climate change, and yet its development is more crucial than ever in fostering economic prosperity. What are the main challenges that must be overcome to turn our cities and industries into efficient, connected and sustainable systems? How is technology changing infrastructure and planning projects? Which avenues should we focus on to finance the next generation of infrastructure?

10:00 AM  FIRESIDE CHAT

10:45 AM  FORUM 1 simultaneously
TOWARDS TOMORROW’S SMART CITIES
As urbanization continues to grow, how is technological innovation reviving our cities and shaping the way we live? How can cities transition to smarter and more sustainable urban solutions? How can private and public stakeholders work together to create and ensure cities are safer, more sustainable and better connected?

FORUM 2 simultaneously
INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
How can technology be useful to improve energy efficiency in storage and transportation? Can innovative solutions provide wider energy access to underserved populations? In what ways can the players of the global energy market collaborate better to optimize the exploitation of a stable and sustainable energy networks?

FORUM 3 simultaneously
DISRUPTIVE CLIMATE: FINANCING THE DECARBONIZATION OF THE ECONOMY
How can energy companies, utilities and investors overcome this investment barrier and encourage their own long-term growth prospects? What types of investment vehicles exist or could be leveraged to bolster capital growth in the green economy? How can public policy encourage investments to help move the fight against climate change forward?

12:00 PM  LUNCHEON
THE AI REVOLUTION

2:00 PM  NETWORKING COFFEE AND DESSERT

2:30 PM  SPECIAL ADDRESS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

3:00 PM

AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION

DRIVING THE GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION

While major economies fail to meet their carbon emission targets and climate change effects loom, the world is still striving to close energy gaps and provide universal access to clean, reliable and affordable energy. What does the future of energy look like? How can fossil fuels be part of the sustainable energy solution? Are countries and businesses adapting fast enough to keep pace with the shifting energy landscape?

4:00 PM

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

CYBERSECURITY STRATEGIES TO SECURE THE REAL WORLD

As systems and structures increasingly become connected and attackers increase their digital capabilities, cybersecurity stands out as a crucial challenge for most industries and businesses. What are the new practices and technological innovations that can counter potential cyberattacks? Do businesses and governments have the proper resources to implement effective cybersecurity measures? How can policies and laws help circumvent cyber threats both locally and globally?
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

HEALTH, TRADE AND CONSUMER TRENDS

6:30 AM  REGISTRATION

7:00 AM  WORKING BREAKFASTS

8:30 AM  OPENING ADDRESS

9:00 AM  MORNING PLENARY SESSION
  SHAPING THE FUTURE OF CONSUMPTION
  As economic opportunities rise in fast growing markets and technology promises more advantages than ever before, the global consumer landscape is changing drastically. How are digitization and automation modifying production and distribution models? What strategies are businesses adopting to capture the growing middle class of emerging economies? Which impact has increased connectivity created on consumer behaviour and the way we do marketing?

10:00 AM  FIRESIDE CHAT

10:45 AM  FORUM 1 simultaneously
  THE RISE OF SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
  How are young entrepreneurs making an impact and improving the world? What are the main challenges in making these social endeavours prosper economically? In what ways is social entrepreneurship redefining practices in different industries?

10:45 AM  FORUM 2 simultaneously
  DISRUPTING THE RETAIL ECOSYSTEM
  What impact does the new e-commerce reality have on both traditional retailers and new online players? As devices and platforms gather information on potential consumers, what are the most efficient marketing practices to embrace? How can businesses benefit from the markets newly made accessible by improved technology and transportation?

12:00 PM  LUNCHEON
  AGENDA 2030: BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

2:00 PM  NETWORKING COFFEE AND DESSERT

2:30 PM  FIRESIDE CHAT

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3:00 PM  AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION

IS CANNABIS THE NEW GOLD RUSH?
As states and countries legalize the medicinal and recreational use of cannabis, global investors are flocking to a once-forbidden industry. Will marijuana producers, manufacturers and distributors live up to the lofty expectations of investors? How can stakeholders ensure the sector unleashes its full potential? Does the early legalization seen in countries such as Canada and Uruguay give a competitive advantage to companies based within those states?

4:00 PM  CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

IMPLEMENTING MEDICAL INNOVATION
Large investment into big data, blockchain, and machine learning promise to drastically change the healthcare sector by providing innovative solutions both to medical challenges and system inefficiencies. What challenges are faced in implementing innovation to the healthcare sector? How can blockchain improve efficiency of the sector’s transactions and foster better affordability? As we move towards personalized treatment relying on big data and AI, what steps must be taken to ensure the ethical and safety standards are respected globally?